



Wavelength

Teignmouth Community School Newsletter

edition March 2012

OfSTED Success for Mill Lane

A recent Ofsted inspection at Teignmouth Community School Mill Lane found the school to be GOOD in all areas of its practice and OUTSTANDING in its Early Years and Nursery provision.

The school was one of the first nationally to be inspected under the new and much tougher Ofsted framework and was judged to have good achievement, behaviour, teaching and leadership.

This is an excellent achievement with the inspectors noting the significant improvements since the previous inspection and highlighting the high levels of satisfaction of both parents and children.

In particular they found that "Pupils are well behaved and considerate to others and that they enjoy school and have positive attitudes to learning as well as identifying the quality of teaching which leads to all pupils making good progress".

Headteacher David Clifford said that "We are all delighted that Ofsted inspectors have confirmed what the children and families in our community have known for some time: that Teignmouth Community School, Mill Lane is a vibrant community where children achieve well and enjoy their school. This result is testimony to the commitment of the hard work of a dedicated and committed staff working together with very supportive parents."

The good news marks the first anniversary of academy status and the federation with Teignmouth Community College.



Mill Lane School Council

Reported by members of the Mill Lane school council:

Our school council went to TCS Exeter Road site for a tour of the school recently.

First we met Miss Blee and Mrs Stone who led our tour. They took us to see their quiet library where you need to take off your shoes. In the auditorium a group of Year 9's performed a scene for us.

Mr Gray our Principal met with us and we got the chance to ask him our questions. One of our favourite places was the science lab. They were using bunsen burners in their experiments. We also enjoyed seeing other classrooms with different subjects. We loved the experience of visiting their catering kitchens. The artwork was impressive and displayed interestingly.

At the end of the tour we visited the pigs and chickens. We fed the pigs and checked if any of the chickens had laid eggs. We found six and one was too big for the egg box! We really enjoyed ourselves at the Exeter Road site.

We thought it was a wonderful school with lots of interesting subjects.



Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2012:

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|------------|----------|
| Term Ends | 29 March |
| Review Day | 30 March |

SUMMER TERM 2012:

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|------------------|---------------|
| Non-student Days | 16 & 17 April |
| Term Starts | 18 April |
| Half Term | 4-8 June |
| Review Day | 28 June |
| Non-student Day | 29 June |
| Term Ends | 19 July |
| Non-student Day | 20 July |

AUTUMN TERM 2012:

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|------------------|--------------|
| Non-student Days | 4 September |
| Term Starts | 5 September |
| Half Term | 29 Oct-2 Nov |
| Term Ends | 20 December |
| Review Day | 21 December |

CHANGE TO START OF SUMMER TERM 2012

Just to remind you all about the
change to the start of the
summer term:

Term starts for students on
Wed 18 April

Non-student days are 16 & 17 April



from the Principal

Mr A P Gray BA Hons, MEd



The lead story of this month's Wavelength was the best birthday present that Teignmouth Community School could have received. One year on from the federation of Teignmouth Community College and Inverteign Junior and Nursery the first Ofsted inspection gains the primary phase a 'Good' grading. This is an extremely pleasing result in any circumstances but this inspection was carried out under the new and tougher inspection framework. The grading was Good in every category; these included Behaviour, Teaching, Achievement and Leadership and within these they also saw outstanding practice especially in the classroom. Even better was the Outstanding grading, once again, for the nursery and early years provision at Mill Lane. This area of the school's provision is second to none and a delight to witness at all times.

I am really pleased the inspectors recognised the fantastic work of staff and the commitment of parents and children at Mill Lane to reach this standard. It has been a privilege over the last twelve months to work with primary colleagues and to learn and progress together.

As you will see from other stories in Wavelength life at the School has been busy and enjoyable through the darker days of January, February and March. There have been activities for everyone and alongside the usual high standard of academic, music, and sporting achievements I would like to point out the success of the Public Speaking team. Against strong independent school opposition all teams came out on top in the local competition going on to represent Teignmouth in the area finals. Although they did not come first here they acquitted themselves admirably with Freya Lance winning the best speaker award in her category: an outstanding performance.

Finally could I thank you for your cooperation in being vigilant with school uniform which is now looking exceptionally smart. Many students are beginning to wear the new black jumpers, cardigans and shirts with the new Year 7 being the first intake to wear this on the secondary site from September. Could I remind parents at Mill Lane of the offer of the directors to help with the cost of the new uniform for those requiring support for the introduction of the new uniform on the primary site in September. In this case, please write to Chair of Directors, Teignmouth Community School, Exeter Road, Teignmouth TQ14 9HZ.

Author Bali Rai Visit



Author Bali Rai visited Exeter Road on 7 March to talk to students about the experiences of his working life.

He talked to Year 9 students about his work in general and about the books he has written, then delivered a creative writing workshop to a selected group of students.

Bali Rai was kept busy with a third group of students with an author workshop, focussing specifically on his books 'Rani and Sukh'

The visit ended with book signing in the Library, where Bali Rai talked to each of the students about the books they read and their writing, followed by lunch prepared by Mr Rayment and the Catering students.

Year 8 & 9 Make News for BBC News School Report



After months of learning how to be BBC reporters and weeks of preparation, 15 March was the big day for our Year 8 and 9 BBC News School Reporters.

Between 9am and 2pm our news team were writing and recording a bulletin to go live on our website by 4pm. As well as developing news items from the days newspapers, students also added two interviews they conducted over the past few weeks with double Olympic gold medallist (Sailing) Sarah Ayton and Olympic photographer Tom Gruitt.

To see the news bulletin, click on the 'BBC News School Report' link on the left hand side of the school website home page (www.teignmouth.devon.sch.uk).

To produce this very professional bulletin the students researched, wrote, filmed and edited all the items.

Two students in particular were outstanding in their contribution to the news bulletin: Alex Carpenter who edited the film of Tom Gruitt, and Rowan Weyer-Brown who edited the Sarah Ayton film.

Well done to the whole team, and not forgetting Miss Sapiano who did an amazing job guiding and encouraging the students through the whole process.



Students interviewing Sarah Ayton



Students and Miss Sapiano with Tom Gruitt



MFL Trip to Normandy



45 year 8 students recently visited Normandy in France for 4 days. They visited the Bayeux Tapestry, Omaha (American) Cemetery, La Cambre (German) Cemetery, Pegasus Bridge and watched a 360 degree film about World War 2 at Arromanches where the Mulberry Harbours are. They also visited traditional French markets and had to ask various questions about the goods that were sold there. One highlight was the visit to Les Marianik's Chocolerie, a small family run business who make their own chocolates and sweets. Very nice!!

Army Caterers

Representatives of the Army catering team came into school a few weeks ago to work with the catering students and introduce them to using the ration packs used to feed soldiers on tours of duty.

Working well together in their teams to plan their menus, they produced high quality food, were creative with ingredients and the presentation was excellent.

Cpl Lunn who led the session commented: "The students were excellent and produced some brilliant results. The facilities here are exactly what you would expect to find in a professional kitchen, so these students will be way ahead when they move into working in a commercial setting."



Charity Fun Day for Make a Wish

Year group 6KW held a charity funday on Friday 24th February in aid of Make a Wish foundation and raised a massive £759.48. The day commenced with a non-school uniform event where students were invited to wear their own clothes or fancy dress for the day. At break time, the students held a successful cake sale, selling a variety of edible delights to hungry staff and students.



Haynes Museum Visit

Year 10 and 11 Motor Vehicle Students recently took part in a trip to the Haynes Motor Museum in Sparkford, Somerset. The students were shown around by the curator of the museum learning about the huge array of cars on display there. They saw the very first car and were able to see first hand how vehicles have developed over the last century. They were then given some time to examine the rest of the collection



Music Day

Teignmouth Community School hosted a music extravaganza for five primary schools in the Teignmouth Learning Community on 29 February.

The day consisted of workshops in the morning where the school took part in brass, strings, samba and singing. Hazeldown pupils played violins, Our Lady and St Patrick were singing, Stokeinteignhead got to grips with a variety of brass instruments, Mill Lane were singing and Bishopsteignton had great fun with Samba. Students from Teignmouth Community School, Exeter Road, also assisted the younger pupils in the workshops. During the afternoon all the children practised in the Art Centre auditorium ready for their evening performance to parents.

The evening concert came to a rousing finale with 'Walkin' On Sunshine' sung by the whole cast of 140 children, accompanied by a live band of Teignmouth Community School GCSE music students.

The young musicians played extremely well considering that the violinists have only been playing for one term and the brass and samba groups only had the 2 hour workshop to prepare. The concert was a complete sell out, and everyone is already thinking about the next one!



DIY Day at Meadow Centre

Teign Housing are planning to run a free D.I.Y Day for young families at The Meadow Centre over the Easter Holidays, in conjunction with our contractors Ian Williams. It will be 11am-2pm on Wednesday the 11th April, and free for anyone to drop in. Lots of free fun during the day, including a crèche, lunch, decorating workshops, advice and tips on D.I.Y in the home, as well as a raffle and chance pick up a free decorating 'Goody bag'. More info from abbi.skelly@teignhousing.co.uk

World Book Day



Children and staff at Mill Lane, entered into the spirit of World Book Day on 1 March by dressing up as their favourite book characters. They all had a great time in their amazing costumes with storytelling and of course, books.



The organisers of UK World Book Day, now in its fifteenth year, offer book tokens to children to encourage reading. This year there are EIGHT special £1 World Book Day



books for children aged 2-12, written by a stellar list of authors and illustrators. It is hoped that more than 14 million children and young people will receive a £1 book token which entitles them to either a FREE £1 World Book Day book OR £1 off any book or audio book costing £2.99 or more. All age groups are catered for with tokens for nursery & primary schools, secondary schools and even a World Book Day App.

DEAR Day

Celebrating World Book Day on 1 March, the students and staff at Exeter Road started the day with 20 minutes to Drop Everything and Read (DEAR Day), with all the students engrossed in a wide variety of books from general fiction to Maths revision guides to careers in the Royal Navy.



Rotary Youth Speaks - Area Final



On Saturday 10th March we took two teams to the Rotary Youth Speaks Area Finals 2012, which were held at Okehampton College. Our Intermediate team comprised of Bethan Ray as Chairperson, Amy Broderick as the Main Speaker and Freya Lance as the Proposer of the Vote of Thanks and they were presenting on the topic of 'Looking Good – but at what cost?' This was a mature topic discussing the health of teenagers as they strive for the 'perfect' body image and they all delivered

fantastic performances. They were up against strong competition from schools from across the Devon area and unfortunately didn't secure victory, but Freya was awarded the prize for the Best Vote of Thanks in this age category.

Our Senior Team comprised of Lauren Broderick as Chairperson, Gemma Butler as the Main Speaker and Maddie Green as the Proposer of the Vote of Thanks. Again they dealt with a controversial issue, in this case the debate surrounding compulsory PE for Year 10 and 11 students, and all performed to a very high standard. They narrowly missed out to Holsworthy School in a strongly fought contest.

Both teams performed to the highest of their ability and demonstrated how much their public speaking skills have developed since the early rounds. Their tutor Kelly Else said "I was extremely proud of all of the students involved and they were a credit to the school. Thanks also to their parents who came along and provided support to the competing students."

Rowcroft Art Competition



Year 7 Art students, as reported in the last issue, have been working on some art-work for a competition for Rowcroft in Torquay.

The final judging has now taken place and the students have been awarded £40 in art vouchers, to be spent on art and craft supplies for the school.

A spokesman for Rowcroft added: "We loved the colours and textures used in the collage and the way they truly depict life by the seaside. The pictures will be framed and hung on the walls of our out-patient department where they will be enjoyed and admired by patients and staff for many years to come."

Arosa Ski Trip 2012

38 students went to Arosa in Switzerland during the February half term holiday for the Teignmouth Community School annual ski trip. During the week the pupils either snowboarded or skied, learning from expert instructors for 5 hours a day.

On the first 3 days, despite being 2500m above sea level and surrounded by snow, there was glorious sunshine which made the views spectacular. For the remaining 3 days the snow was falling which made the off piste powder fantastic although the afternoon on the second to last day was a very different experience when the driving wind and snow was pushing the pupils up the slopes.

Activities such as Ice skating, torch lit walk and an Ice hockey game kept the students entertained in the evenings. There were prizes awarded for most improved and top snowboarder: the winners of these awards were Alexandra Bowden and Joe Simmonds respectively, the most improved skier was Finn Conway and the pro skier award went to Dylan Brenner.

A great time was had by all and hopefully even more students will be going to Crans-Montana in Switzerland next February.



Girls' Football

Over 100 girls from the Teignmouth Learning Community took part in the football festival at Teignmouth Community School Astro. The girls were in their team of 10 from their school and were coached on 5 different skills to prepare them for the tournament later that afternoon. The 5 stations were shooting, passing, dribbling, passing on the move and game understanding and skills.

After the pupils had completed all 5 skills the teams played in a tournament with the A teams playing each other in group A and the B and C teams playing each other in group B. In group B Shaldon finished unbeaten to win a closely contested group from Hazeldown who they beat in the final game to claim the title. In Group A Stokeinteignhead and Shaldon went into the last game with Shaldon needing a win to claim the title, however after some resolute defending from Stokeinteignhead the game finished 0-0 which saw Stokeinteignhead win the tournament.

All the pupils had a great afternoon and the quote of the day from one of the girls was: "I had a phobia about football but I love it now".

Gymnastics Tournament

The tournament took place on Tuesday 6th March in the new sports hall at Teignmouth Community School. 19 teams of 6 pupils took part from the 6 Teignmouth Primary Schools. The pupils had 2 set floor routines to learn and also a vault which would be judged on the quality of performance and they had clearly spent a lot of time training for the event. After a warm up and practicing their routines they moved to their first judging area: the sports hall went silent and you could have cut the tension with a knife.

There were 2 competitions per age group one for pupils who do gymnastics outside of school and another for the recreational gymnasts who have only done gymnastics in their primary school. In the year 3/4 competition section the pupils performance was a very high level with 3 pupils from Hazeldown scoring perfect marks on the vault and one pupil from the winning team Teignmouth Community School Mill Lane scoring a perfect 30 for their floor routine. In the recreational section Teignmouth Community School Mill Lane won with an impressive score of 235 points which would have seen them finish second in the Competition section.

In the year 5/6 competition section Teignmouth Community School were again victorious; the key element to their victory was the 3 perfect scores on the vault, a feat that was almost replicated by the pupils from Bishopsteignton who achieved 2 perfect vaults. Shaldon finished in second place in the competition section and achieved 1 perfect vault. In the recreational section Shaldon were victorious and only scored 1 point less than their competition team due to 2 perfect vaults. In second place were Teignmouth Community School.

All 4 teams from Teignmouth Community School Mill Lane and Shaldon will represent Teignmouth at the partnership finals at Somersaults Gym in Newton Abbot. A big 'well done' also goes to the Year 10 leaders who were very competent and professional.





Fairtrade

As part of their Fair Trade citizenship some students from 7LMP ran a staff café serving fair trade tea, coffee and snacks in the staff room at break on Wednesday 14th March. The students chose and organised this event after they came up with the best idea in a recent citizenship lesson during which they learned about Fairtrade.



Tom Bond, Lewis Addicott and Callum Cramp-Sherry were the trio who took up this challenge and also set up a taster stand for students at lunch time with **fairtrade snacks such as banana's, oranges** and chocolate.

Many thanks to Nick Pearce from the Co-op store at Trago Mills who donated all the goods, which are of course available in Co-op stores.

Let's Get Cooking Cookathon



Nursery pupils at Mill Lane recently held a Let's Get Cooking Cookathon.

Throughout the week each class cooked and ate the results, and between all the classes they made flapjacks, mini pizzas, spaghetti bolognese, soup, fish cakes and cheesecake. Some classes invited parents in to sample the goods too.

The pictures show the children making fruit salad and pizza which the children said were yummy!



CAL Jubilee Mosaic



The Jubilee mosaic project had been completed by a group of Year 8 students, linking with students from other schools in the Teignmouth area.

The project has been funded by Teignmouth First and led by local artist Michelle Greenwood-Brown, with a theme of **'Under the Sea'**.

This mosaic, together with others from the contributing schools, will be part of a permanent display in the tunnel between the library and Teign Street in Teignmouth.

It is hoped that as many of the exhibits as possible will be on display in time for the Jubilee celebrations.

Ten Tors



The Ten Tors on 12-13 May is fast approaching and our teams have been out on the moors getting in some practise.

On 10 March the walking conditions became more difficult as the day went on, in particular low cold cloud made navigation much more challenging than on previous walks. This is exactly what we want of course and squad members rose to the occasion.

Special mention to Miss Hellier for finding Dinger Tor first, even though the low cloud hid it from the whole group.